Fog again hits flights

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE, Jan 1: After a clear sunny day heavy fog suddenly descended on the city an hour or so after sunset on Friday.

The development forced an immediate cancellation of flights at Lahore airport. Rail traffic and intra-city bus services were also affected.

The fog reduced visibility to 50 metres at 7:25pm and then to 10 metres at 8:30pm.

Lahore and many other cities of the Punjab are being affected by fog for the past over two weeks causing several fatal road accidents. Four senior government officials were also killed when a Punjab government helicopter crashed in Lahore due to poor visibility.

Friday's fog came earlier than the previous days when it began to form around midnight. Its early descent on Friday evening increased the chill. In the morning fog cleared at 11:00am after reducing visibility to a minimum of 10 metres at around 8:00am.

The minimum temperature was 2.5 degrees centigrade with 92 per cent humidity in the morning and 67 per cent in the evening.

The director, Meteorological department, Shoukat Ali Awan, said fog developed early because a clear evening fast evaporated the warmth of earth.

He said dry weather had been causing foggy conditions in Pakistan and India during December. It will eliminate as soon as it rains, he said.

Mr Awan said a secondary westerly disturbance was passing through southern Iran but at the moment it was hard to say whether it will cause rain in Pakistan during the next 36 hours or not.